

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80548

Masahiro ITO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/812,056

Group Art Unit: 2673

Confirmation No.: 1303

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: March 30, 2004

For:

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<u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98</u>

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

- 1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-221950, published August 9, 2002.
- 2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 9-16129, published January 17, 1997.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/812,056

Attorney Docket: Q80548

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for

foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese

Office Action dated February 14, 2006, and an English translation of the pertinent portions

thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign

office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted

Registration No. 25,665

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 4, 2006

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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STA	TEMENT B	Y AF	PLICANT	First Named Inventor	Masahiro ITO	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office,

^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not Considered. Include of this form with next communication to applicant,

^{1.} Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) 2. See Kinds codes of USPTO patent Docu<u>www.uspto.gc</u>or MPEP 901.04. 3. Enter Office that isssued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3.) 4. For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.